

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

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P R 250704 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4120

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO CINCPAC CAMP H M SMITH HAWAII

COMUSJAPAN FUCHU JAPAN

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: MARR JA

SUBJECT: SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE: PRESS GUIDANCE

1. EMBASSY AND FONOFF BOTH WISH TO MAINTAIN
CONFIDENTIALITY OF SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS.
ACCORDINGLY, AND DRAWING UPON EXPERIENCE OF MOST
RECENT SECURITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING, EMBASSY
AND FONOFF HAVE WORKED OUT PRESS GUIDANCE FOR USE BY
REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS IN DEALING WITH
THE PRESS FOLLOWING THE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS. THE
GUIDANCE IS NOT RPT NOT A COMMUNIQUE OF THE MEETING
AND IS NOT RPT NOT A PRESS RELEASE. ACCORDINGLY, ITS
PRECISE WORDING IS NOT A CRITICAL MATTER, AND ALL
PRESS BRIEFERS MERELY WOULD CONFINE THEMSELVES WITHIN
THE LIMITS DESCRIBED BY THE GUIDANCE. THE GUIDANCE
IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT

PRESS GUIDANCE

RELATING TO THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE

US- JAPAN SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

MAY 29-30, 1973

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A SERIES OF THREE SEPARATE MEETINGS WAS HELD IN TOKYO ON MAY 29 AND 30 AT IIKURA HOUSE. ONE MEETING WAS HELD ON THE 29 TH AND TWO WERE HELD ON THE 30 TH . THE PURPOSE OF THE SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE IS TO DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO SECURITY OF INTEREST TO THE TWO GOVERNMENTS. THE SUBCOMMITTEE ITSELF DOES NOT MAKE DECISIONS RELATING TO SECURITY MATTERS BUT MERELY SERVES AS A FORUM FOR FRANK DISCUSSION. THE SUBCOMMITTEE, WITH HEAVY REPRESENTATION FROM USG AGENCIES IN WASHINGTON, SUPPLEMENTS THE COMPANION SECURITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, WHICH LAST MET ON JANUARY 23, 1973, AND THE SECURITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP, WHICH LAST MET MAY 14, 1973. THE NAMES AND TITLES OF PARTICIPANTS OF BOTH SIDES (TO BE SUPPLIED) CAN BE RELEASED TO THE PRESS.

DISCUSSIONS AT THE THREE MEETINGS REVOLVED GENERALLY AROUND THREE SEPARATE TOPICS:

(1) THE APPRECIATION BY THE US OF THE WORLDWIDE STRATEGIC SITUATION, INCLUDING PROGRESS TOWARDS ARMS CONTROL AND REDUCTION;

(2) THE CURRENT POLITICAL- SECURITY SITUATION IN EAST ASIA; AND

(3) MATTERS CONCERNING THE PRESENCE OF US FORCES IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC, INCLUDING JAPAN, AND RELATED BASE PROBLEMS.

DISCUSSION WAS FRANK AND LIVELY, BUT THE COMMITTEE MADE NO DECISIONS RESPECTING ANY OF THE TOPICS.

REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS WERE COMPLETELY SATISFIED WITH THE HIGH DEGREE OF FRANK EXCHANGE ACHIEVED DURING THE MEETING AND NOTED WITH FAVOR THAT THE GENERAL ESTIMATES OF REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION IN EAST ASIA WERE VERY SIMILAR. THEY ALSO SHARED THE UNDERSTANDING THAT EFFORTS FOR REALIGNMENT AND CONSOLIDATION OF US FACILITIES AND AREAS IN JAPAN SHOULD BE CONTINUED, CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES AND FRAMEWORK OF THE TREATY OF MUTUAL COOPERATION AND SECURITY. THE COMMITTEE, AS IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS, DECIDED NOT TO AUTHORIZED PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF THE MATTERS DISCUSSED WITHIN THE COMMITTEE MEETING IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN AN ATMOSPHERE CONDUCIVE TO FORTHRIGHT PRESENTATIONS BY THE VARIOUS PARTICIPANTS ON BOTH SIDES. ACCORDINGLY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOTHING MORE CAN BE SAID RESPECTING THE SPECIFIC TOPICS OF DISCUSSION.

END TEXT

2. FONOFF HAS ASSURED EMBASSY THAT GOJ PARTICIPANTS WILL NOT RPT NOT HOLD PRESS BACKGROUNDER CONCERNING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING AND THAT POST- MEETING PRESS

CONFERENCE, GIVEN BY OKAWARA, WILL ADHERE TO ABOVE
PRESS GUIDANCE. OBVIOUSLY, IT EXTREMELY IMPORTANT
THAT ALL US PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS IN SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETINGS ALSO ADHERE STRICTLY TO PRESS GUIDANCE.
INGERSOLL

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